

37. (New) The optical system of claim 36, further comprising:

an optical element carried by said rotatable carrier comprising a first monochrome filter.

38. (New) The optical system of claim 37, further comprising another optical element carried by said rotatable carrier comprising a second, different monochrome filter, wherein the monochrome filters are employed to obtain image data to produce a color video display.

39. (New) The optical system of claim 36, further comprising:

- a laser pattern projector for projecting a pattern from the handheld optical code reader, and
- an optical element carried by said rotatable carrier and selectively positionable in the optical path of the system comprising an optical band pass filter approximately centered on a wavelength of the projected pattern.

40. (New) The optical system of claim 36, wherein the carrier is a wheel rotatable about a central axis thereof and divided into plural sectors each carrying an optical element,

at least one of which optical elements being adapted for positioning in the optical path for imaging an optical code in a working depth of field of the optical code reader.

41. (New) An optical system for an optical code reader comprising:

an area image sensor;

an objective lens assembly adapted and positioned for focusing an image onto the area image sensor;

a rotatable carrier; and

at least one transparent optical element with substantially parallel, planar surfaces, carried by said rotatable carrier and selectively movable into the optical path of the image sensor by said rotatable carrier;

wherein the system has at least one focal distance adapted for reading code symbols relatively near to the objective lens assembly and another focal distance for imaging scenes relatively far from the objective lens assembly; and

wherein the thickness of the plate is selected to change the focal distance of the system between the one focal distance and the other.

42. (New) The optical system of claim 41, wherein the system operates in a hyper-focal mode when the at least one optical element is moved into the optical path of the image sensor.

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43. (New) The optical system of claim 41, wherein the optical element is a glass plate selectively located between the objective lens assembly and the image sensor.

44. (New) An optical imager with plural focal distances Z_R determined by the thickness of plural glass plates sequentially inserted in an optical path between an objective lens assembly and an area image sensor, wherein the plural glass plates have thicknesses selected on the basis of the desired focal distances Z_R and wherein the glass plates are located on a rotating carrier with an axis of rotation generally parallel to and offset from the optical path.--

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please replace the abstract as follows:

--An imaging optical code reader is adapted for use in producing video displays. A rotating plate carrier is capable of placing several different optical elements into the optical paths of the system including at least one plane parallel plate to change the system focal distance.--